

Mosaic Masterpiece

Description:

Children will use old magazines and construction paper to create a mosaic masterpiece.

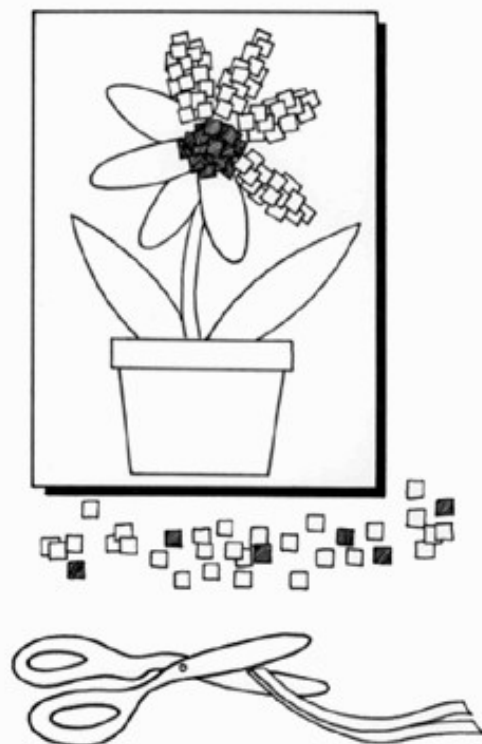
Materials:

Mosaic activity sheet, cotton swabs, old magazines and/or construction paper in different colors, safety scissors, and glue

Standards: 2

Concepts: Pattern, space, and value

Level: Grades 1-3



Preparation:

Make a copy of the Mosaic activity sheet. Gather up old magazines and have your child cut them up into small squares. You might want to help by cutting a number of pages into small squares.

Procedure:

Tell your child that mosaics are made of tiny pieces of stone, pottery, glass, or other materials, which are arranged in a pattern and set in plaster or cement. They can be used to decorate a floor, a wall, or a ceiling. Mosaics have a long history dating back to ancient Babylon, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. When the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum (which were buried during the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79) were rediscovered, many wonderful mosaics came to light. Ask your child to imagine making a mosaic for their entry hall with over one million pieces of glass—all hand cut! It is a project that would take months and, in some cases, years to complete. You can see examples of mosaics in *JumpStart Artist*. Have your child fill in the activity page with squares of paper cut from old magazines. Encourage him to choose squares based on their colors and patterns and to arrange them first before gluing them down. When the mosaic is complete, you might want to take it to an office supply store and have it laminated.

Tips:

Use cotton swabs to glue the small squares down.

Extension:

Your child can plan his own mosaic pattern instead of using the one provided. Get the whole family involved and make a very large mosaic using paint and sponges cut into squares.

Just for Kids:

Mosaics are one of the earliest forms of art. They are created with square tiles of stone, glass, or pottery. Many mosaic floors and walls have been excavated from ancient cities across Europe and the Middle East. Some of the finest mosaics have been discovered in the ruins of Pompeii, an ancient city destroyed by a volcanic eruption. You will create your own mosaic with colored pieces of paper. Arrange the pieces in pleasing designs, then glue them on paper.

Resources:

Mosaics by David Little

